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Koreans Protest Near DMZ

IMJINGAK, South Korea, June 14 (AP) — Students shouting anti-American slogans protested today at the edge of the demilitarized zone dividing North and South Korea and called for reunification of the peninsula.

About 1,300 students from two universities in Seoul held a peaceful, sit-down protest for several hours in front of a bridge that was blocked off by steel barriers and barbed wire. The bridge is the only access for civilians to the border with North Korea.

The students shouted, "Drive out Yankees who hinder unification!" and "Advance unification!" as they briefly marched along the barriers.

United States troops who usually guard the bridge stayed out of sight. A few South Korean troops guarded the crossing.

The students went to Imjingak, the last civilian area before the demilitarized zone, in 30 buses. Professors escorted them to prevent trouble. It was the first report of teachers accompanying students to prevent violence.

The students called on South Korean students to refuse compulsory military training and denounced the blocking of a march to the border last week.

Clashes broke out in Seoul on Friday as 60,000 riot police prevented thousands of students from marching to the border for talks with North Korean students on reunification. It was the biggest crackdown on student protests since President Roh Tae Woo took office in February.

The police apparently permitted the protest today because the leaders of the demonstration said the students had no plans to enter the 2.5-mile-wide demilitarized zone or to meet with North Korean students. The authorities say that such contacts are permitted only by the South Korean Government.

About 40,000 United States military personnel are stationed in South Korea under a mutual defense accord to help deter North Korea, which invaded the South in 1950 and set off a three-year war.

The students contend the United States enforces partition of the peninsula to rule the South as a colony.

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